

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 IOE-00 DHA-02 PM-04 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 DODE-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 /066 W

-----261822Z 128050 /50

O R 261735Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2997

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 1935

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PDIP, PFOR, US, GT, NU

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG VISIT NICARAGUA

SUMMARY: EMB BELIEVES VISIT BY AMB YOUNG TO NICARAGUA IN CONNECTION WITH TRAVEL TO GUATEMALA FOR ECLA MEETING OFFERS SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITY TO IMPRESS ON BOTH PRESIDENT SOMOZA AND OPPOSITION SERIOUSNESS OF U.S. IN PROMOTING GREATER RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN NICARAGUA. END SUMMARY

1. PRESENCE OF AMB YOUNG IN GUATEMALA FOR MAY2-5 PLENARY OF ECLA OFFERS SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITY TO ADVANCE U.S. INTERESTS IN IMPROVING NICARAGUAN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION WITH ONLY MINOR SCHEDULING PROBLEMS IF HE COULD VISIT NICARAGUA EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER GUATEMALA. AMB YOUNG'S CREDENTIALS AS FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS, CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF PRESIDENT CARTER, AND HIS DEEP COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS ARE WELL KNOWN TO NICARAGUANS WHO FOLLOW INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND ESPECIALLY U.S. POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS. THIS ENSURES THAT A VISIT WOULD CONSTITUTE A MAJOR EVENT AT THIS PERIOD OF HEIGHTENED FOCUS ON FUTURE U.S.-NICARAGUAN RELATIONS IN TERMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY.

2. EMB WOULD ARRANGE METINGS FOR AMB YOUNG WITH PRESIDENT SOMOZA,
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OPPOSITION POLITICIANS, CAPUCHIN PRIESTS AND PRIVATE SECTOR.

3. PRESIDENT SOMOZA WOULD LIKELY HAVE MIXED EMOTIONS RE AMB YOUNG VISIT. HE WOULD WELCOME ATTENTION GENERATED BY SUCH A VISIT AS WELL AS OPPORTUNITY TO ARGUE NICARAGUA'S HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION WITH PERSON SO CLOSE TO PRESIDENT CARTER. AT SAME TIME HE WOULD HAVE TREPIDATION ABOUT POSSIBLE UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY ON HUMAN

RIGHTS SITUATION WHICH MIGHT SURFACE. AMB YOUNG IS ALSO WELL KNOWN LOCALLY FOR BEING OUTSPOKEN. OPPOSITION AND CAPUCHIN PRIESTS WOULD BE DELIGHTED AND ENCOURAGED BY OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THEIR POLITICAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIEWS TO A LISTENER OF SUCH STATURE.

4. LANGUAGE SHOULD BE NO BARRIER AS PRESIDENT SOMOZA AND WIDE NUMBER OF IMPORTANT OPPOSITIONISTS SPEAK FLUENT ENGLISH. CAPUCHIN PRIESTS ARE U.S. CITIZENS. THE FULL VALUE OF VISIT COULD BE REALIZED IN ONE OR TWO DAYS. EMB WOULD PREPARE ALL NECESSARY BACKGROUND AND TALKINGPOINT PAPERS AND BRIEF AMB YOUNG UPON HIS ARRIVAL OR, ALTERNATIVELY, COULD SEND OFFICER TO GUATEMALA FOR ADVANCED BRIEFING.

5. PRESENT MAJOR STATE OF FLUX RE CONTINUANCE OF MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO NICARAGUA AS A RESULT OF LONG SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS ON NICARAGUA MAKES TIMING OF VISIT MOST APPROPRIATE. POTENTIAL VALUE IN INFLUENCING AND FURTHER EDUCATING PRESIDENT SOMOZA ON U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY OFFERS SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS FROM THE VISIT. OPPOSITION WOULD INTERPRET VISIT AS FURTHER MAJOR EVIDENCE OF U.S. RETHINKING ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH NICARAGUA AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO THINK MORE IN TERMS OF POLITICAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE FUTURE. ALL OF THE ABOVE WOULD BE EXTREMELY BENEFICIAL TO U.S. INTERESTS AND WOULD EXPOSE AMB YOUNG TO COMPLEXITIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION AS IT INTERFACES WITH NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND LATIN POLITICAL PERCEPTIONS OF U.S. POLICY.

6. TRAVEL TO NICARAGUA AFTER GUATEMALA WOULD HAVE ADVANTAGE OF OFFERING GREATER LEAD TIME AS WELL AS FURTHER EXPOSURE BY AMB YOUNG TO LATENT THINKING ON MANY ISSUES WHICH WOULD CONTRIBUTE

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TO MEETINGS IN NICARAGUA. EMB WOULD APPRECIATE DECISION IMMEDIATELY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, POLICIES, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PLANNING MEETINGS, VISITS, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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SAS ID: 2692939
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Subject: RECOMMENDATION THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG VISIT NICARAGUA SUMMARY: EMB BELIEVES VISIT BY AMB YOUNG TO NICARAGUA IN CONNECTION WITH TRAVEL TO GUATEMALA FOR ECLA MEETING OFFERS S
TAGS: SHUM, PDIP, PFOR, US, GT, NU, (YOUNG, ANDREW)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ad901c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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